

Eastern Asia Minor and the Caucasus in Remote and Classical Antiquity

Levantine Page

Available at Internet Archive: [Levantine Sources](#)

Prepared by Robert Bedrosian

The Hebrew Bible

The first five books of the Bible, also known as the *Books of Moses*, the *Five Books*, or *Pentateuch*, are considered the "historical" books. Ancient history, legend, mythology, and moral teachings all are present. For Armenists, additionally, these books provide a magnificent source for Classical Armenian vocabulary of the early 5th century, when the Bible was translated into Armenian. Words not found in Armenian historical sources, may be found here and/or the nuances of their usage may be compared.

[Tanakh](#), at Sacred-Texts. This is a unicode version of the Hebrew Bible. To view it properly, you need to have a Unicode font installed which has full Unicode Hebrew support. To view Hebrew, Greek, Latin, and English versions side by side, select the "Polyglot" option at the top of the passage.

[References to Eastern Asia Minor in the Bible](#), by Robert Bedrosian.

Josephus

The writings of the Jewish activist and historian Flavius Josephus (A.D. 37-ca. 100), who wrote in Greek, contain numerous references to Armenia and Armenians. The best method for finding them is to download the searchable pdf English translation, open it in your pdf reader, and use the pdf reader's Search facility (usually CTRL-F): [The Works of Flavius Josephus](#).

Armeniaca

[Jews in Armenia](#) (excerpts), by Jacob Neusner.

[References to Armenia in the Jewish Encyclopedia](#) (1906).

[The Conversions of Adiabene to Judaism and Christianity](#), by Jacob Neusner, in 16 pdf pages. This download contains two articles by Neusner on Adiabene: *The Conversion of Adiabene to Judaism: A New Perspective*, from *Journal of Biblical Literature*, Vol. 83, No. 1 (Mar., 1964), pp. 60-66; and *The Conversion of Adiabene to Christianity, Shorter Note*, from *Numen*, Vol. 13, Fasc. 2 (Aug., 1966), pp. 144-150.

Levantine History, Culture, Mythology

[Patriarchal Palestine](#), by A. H. Sayce.

[El's Abode: Mythological Traditions Related to Mount Hermon and to the Mountains of Armenia](#), by E. Lipinski.

[Aram Naharaim: A Contribution to the History of Upper Mesopotamia in the Second Millennium B.C.](#) With an appendix on Indo-Aryan names [from Mitanni, Nuzu and Syro-Palestinian documents], by Roger Timothy O'Callaghan and Paul Emile Dumont (Rome, 1948), *Pontificium Institutum Biblicum*, in 172 searchable pdf pages.

[Ethnic Movements in the Near East in the Second Millennium B. C., The Hurrians and Their Connections with the Habiru and the Hyksos](#), by E. A. Speiser, from *Annual of the American Schools of Oriental Research*, Vol. 13, (1931-1932), pp. 13-54, in 43 pdf pages.

[Abraham and the Merchants of Ura](#), by Cyrus Gordon, from *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, Vol. 17, No. 1 (Jan., 1958), pp. 28-31, in 5 pdf pages. In this classic article, Gordon suggests that the city called "Ur of the Chaldees" was not in southern Mesopotamia, but around Urha/Urfa/Edessa, in the vicinity of Harran. He suggests that Patriarch Abraham was not "of the Chaldeans" but of the Hittite/Hurrian Khaldi-worshippers.

See also: [The Ancient Name of Edessa](#), by Amir Harrak, from *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, Vol. 51, No. 3 (Jul., 1992), pp. 209-21, in 7 pdf pages.

[Evidence for the Horite Language from Nuzi](#), by Cyrus Gordon, from *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research*, No. 64 (Dec., 1936), pp. 23-28, in 7 pdf pages.

[The Background to Jewish Studies in the Bible and in the Ancient East](#), by Cyrus Gordon, from *Shofar*, Vol. 12, No. 4 (Summer 1994), pp. 1-46, in 48 pdf pages.

[Ancient Near Eastern Texts Relating to the Old Testament](#), James Pritchard, editor (Princeton, 1950; reprinted numerous times) in 743 searchable pdf pages. Egyptian, Sumerian, Akkadian, Hittite, Ugaritic, Babylonian, and Assyrian myths, tales, songs, wisdom literature, legal texts, treaties, and letters, translated and commented on by numerous scholars including John A. Wilson, S. N. Kramer, E. A. Speiser, Albrecht Goetze, A. Leo Oppenheim, A. Sachs, and Ferris J. Stephens.

[The Patriarchs](#), by E. G. Ban, published on the Internet (2000), in 195 bookmarked and searchable pdf pages. In this unusual popular presentation, the Israeli author explores the myths, literature and archaeology of the ancient Near East to investigate the Hebrew Patriarchs.

[The Book of Enoch](#), translated by R. H. Charles from Ethiopic manuscripts (Oxford, 1912), in 454 searchable pdf pages. Parts of this book date from the 4th century B.C. Attributed to Enoch, great-grandfather of Noah.

The Apocrypha and Pseudepigrapha of the Old Testament in English by R. H. Charles (Oxford, 1913), in two searchable volumes:

[volume 1, Apocrypha](#), in 708 pdf pages;
[volume 2, Pseudepigrapha](#), in 898 pdf pages.

Louis Ginzberg's *Legends of the Jews* (Philadelphia, 1911-1918):

[volume 1](#). Creation to Jacob.
[volume 2](#). Joseph to Moses.
[volume 3](#). Exodus to the death of Moses.
[volume 4](#). Joshua to Esther.

[Flowers from a Persian Garden and Other Papers](#), by W. A. Clouston (London, 1890). Middle Eastern tales and legends, including unusual Biblical and Rabbinical tales, in 395 pdf pages.

[Old Testament Legends](#), by M. R. James.

[Folklore in the Old Testament](#) vol. 1 by James G. Frazer.

[Folklore in the Old Testament](#) vol. 2 by James G. Frazer.

[Folklore in the Old Testament](#) vol. 3 by James G. Frazer.

Selected Writings of:

[I. J. Gelb](#)

[Hans G. Güterbock](#)

[Daniel David Luckenbill](#)

[A. Leo Oppenheim](#)

[A. H. Sayce](#)

[E. A. Speiser](#)

[Arthur Ungnad](#)

Additional material: [Armenian Folklore and Mythology Resources at Internet Archive](#).

Art History

Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History, at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art:

[Levant 8000-2000 B.C.](#)

[Levant 2000-1000 B.C.](#)

[Levant 1000 B.C. - 1 A.D.](#)

[Levant 1 - 500 A.D.](#)

Material at Ancient World Online for [Levant/Levantine](#);
[Israel/Palestine](#).

[Ancient Locations](#), a database of archaeological sites, prepared by Charles Jones.

[Judaea](#), Google search of Livius.org.

[Search the Jewish Encyclopedia](#) (1906)

Wikipedia

[Jewish History](#)

[Timeline of Jewish History](#)

[Judaism Portal](#)

[Classical Antiquity Menu](#)